



Directorate of
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**Terrorism
Review**

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3 February 1983

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Terrorism
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Comments and queries regarding this publication may be directed to the Research Director, Instability and Insurgency Center, Office of Global Issues, telephone

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Trends in Fatal Terrorist Attacks Against Americans: 1980-82

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Terrorists continue to target Americans for assassination as symbols of US "imperialism."

During the past three years, 21 Americans were killed in 15 separate incidents in six countries. These attacks represent 2.5 percent of all recorded attacks against Americans. The number of terrorist incidents in which American citizens were either wounded or killed represents about 2 percent of all international terrorist incidents in the 1980-82 period.

Highly mobile democratic societies, with guaranteed media coverage, sophisticated transportation networks, and easy access to national borders, have frequently been the scene of terrorist operations. During the past three years, however, only three Americans were killed in two separate incidents in such an environment; all in France. Over half of the attacks and 14 deaths occurred in politically unstable areas of Central and South America—Colombia, Guatemala, and El Salvador. Turkey, where eight US citizens were killed in the two years preceding the military's assumption of power in September 1980, witnessed only three American deaths over the past two years. One American was killed in the Philippines.

Five terrorist groups—the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA), the Lebanese Armed Revolutionary Faction (LARF), the Colombian 19th of April Movement (M-19), the Turkish Marxist-Leninist Armed Propaganda Unit (MLAPU), and the Philippine April 6th Movement—either have claimed responsibility or have been implicated in half of the attacks in the 1980-82 period. In the other eight incidents the group was either unknown or those killed were victims of violence in politically troubled areas. This differs from previous years when Palestinian terrorist groups were responsible for most of these

American deaths. LARF, which claimed responsibility for the assassination in 1982 of Lt. Col. Charles Ray, assistant US military attache in Paris, is new to the international terrorist scene. ASALA had not been responsible for American deaths before its indiscriminate attack at the Ankara Airport in 1982, in which one American woman was killed.

Until the mid-1970s more than half of all Americans killed by terrorists were killed only because they were coincidentally at the location of an attack. Since about 1978, however, terrorists have tended specifically to target Americans because of their citizenship. This trend continued during the past three years. Of the 21 US citizens who died as a result of international terrorist incidents, 15 were specifically targeted; only about one-third of the Americans killed were victims of indiscriminate attacks.

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Canada:
Armenian Terrorist Activities

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Armenian terrorist groups are becoming increasingly active in Canada. The Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), which is responsible for internal security matters, has identified two groups currently operating in the country, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) and the Justice Commandos Against Genocide (JCAG). The activities of these groups so far have been confined to major urban areas including Toronto, Ottawa, and Montreal. Canadian authorities believe that, although active membership is low, a considerable number of nationalist extremists in Canada's Armenian community are willing to shelter, support, and assist members of both organizations.

The most serious terrorist incident in Canada in 1982 was the murder in August of Colonel Altikat, military attache at the Turkish Embassy in Ottawa. The RCMP has identified the killers as members of the JCAG and maintains they came from Beirut, were controlled from there, and entered and departed Canada under assumed names. Since Altikat's death, the RCMP has increased the "close support protection" of Turkish Embassy officials in Ottawa and of the Turkish representative to the International Civil Aviation Organization in Montreal. The RCMP has also indicated it would welcome any information the Turks could provide on the location of known terrorists.

When a new military attache was posted to the Turkish Embassy in early November, the US Embassy in Ottawa reported that the Canadian Government had issued a "heightened alert" regarding the threat from Armenian terrorism in the country. The alert was apparently based on information the RCMP had gathered from its sources. Canadian officials in-

formed both the Turkish Government in Ankara and its Embassy in Ottawa that an increase in Armenian terrorist activities directed against Turkish nationals in Canada appeared likely. 25X1

In May, Toronto police arrested four individuals who claimed to be members of ASALA. The four were charged with attempting to extort money from the city's Armenian community and with involvement in the firebombings of a car, a truck, and a home. The police searched the residences of the accused men and discovered terrorist literature and posters, materials for making pipe bombs, and instructions for the manufacture of other types of bombs. 25X1

Canada is an extremely attractive location for terrorist activities. Canadians have traditionally shown an intense abhorrence of violence and are not inclined to take it in stride. Terrorist acts, such as the murder of Colonel Altikat, are therefore certain to attract national attention and generate extensive media coverage and exposure for both the event and the group that claims responsibility for it. 25X1

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**Palestinian Hijacking May Invoke
International Sanctions**

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The Bonn Declaration could be invoked against Djibouti virtually halting international air service to that country, if local Djiboutian authorities decide to free the three Palestinians who hijacked a South Yemeni airliner to Djibouti.

The pro-Western government of Djibouti is reluctant to involve itself in international controversy and probably is weighing expected reactions of conservative Arab states to which it looks for vital foreign aid before deciding how to react.

Three Palestinians armed with a revolver hijacked an Al-Yandu Boeing 707 on 20 January and diverted the airliner to Djibouti. Reports conflict, but the flight apparently was en route to Damascus from Aden. Although the three demanded to be flown to Cairo, the crew said fuel was insufficient and the hijackers agreed to Djibouti. Authorities gave landing permission when the pilot claimed technical difficulties. A gunfight between the hijackers and the security personnel, who routinely travel on Al-Yandu flights, left two passengers wounded.

We cannot verify the hijackers' affiliation, although all indications are that they are members of one of the smaller PLO groups. According to a Djibouti official, the hijackers were homesick Palestinians.

We concur that this hijacking probably was not sanctioned by a mainline Palestinian group, many of which have utilized training facilities in South Yemen or have been supported by Aden in other ways. The local PLO representative in Djibouti had engaged in negotiations with the hijackers.

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South Yemen requested permission to send commandos to storm the hijacked plane, but authorities prohibited their entry. The hijackers, after first demanding food and fuel to continue their flight, changed their demands to Djiboutian passports and the right to leave for the country of their choice. The US Mission is uncertain of the hijackers' status. Conflicting reports indicate that the hijackers are either in jail pending a police investigation or at a hotel with laissez-passers and no police escort.

The Bonn Declaration requires hijackers to be either tried or extradited, in this case to South Yemen, for prosecution. Extradition is unlikely, because Djibouti has no extradition treaty with South Yemen. If no trials are held, the Bonn Declaration stipulates that other countries must cut off landing rights for Air Djibouti at their airports and not permit their airlines to fly to Djibouti. Moreover, lenient treatment of the hijackers could encourage others to use Djibouti as a safehaven.

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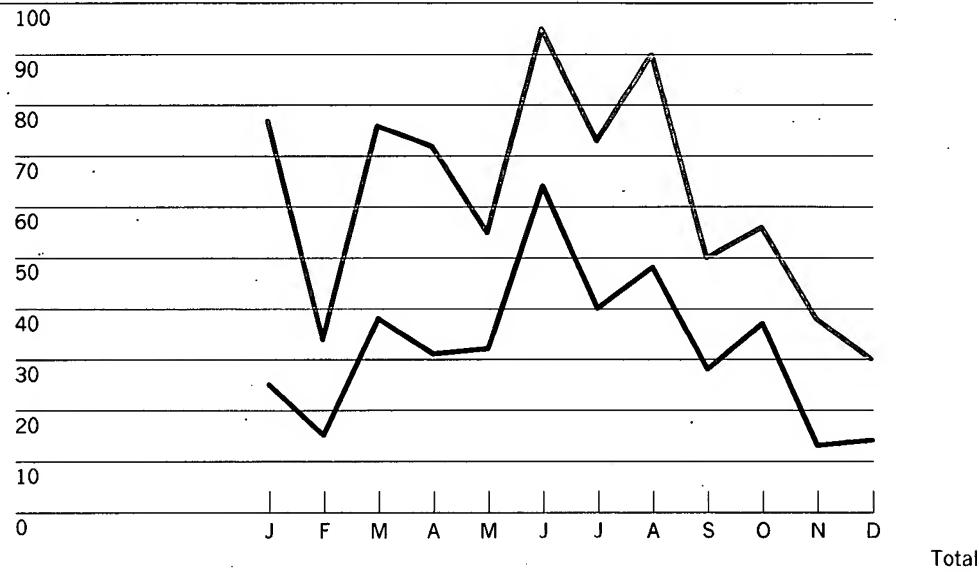
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Statistical Overview

International Terrorist Incidents, 1982^a

— Total, 746
 — Of which: US targets, 385



Category of International Terrorist Incidents, 1982, by Month	Total											
	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Total	77	34	76	72	55	95	73	90	50	56	38	30
Kidnapping	5	2	2	3	1	3		3	3	2	1	21
Barricade, hostage				1	1	1	1	7	1	5		17
Bombing	39	16	36	32	20	47	42	31	13	16	17	16
Armed attack			2	1	1			2	1			7
Hijacking	2	4	1	4	2	1	3	4	1	3	3	1
Assassination	4	3	5	9	1	8	3	4	5			42
Threats, hoax	21	5	25	16	26	32	19	45	16	22	7	9
Sniping	2	3	2	3	2	1	1	2	3	2	1	22
Other ^b	4	1	3	3	1	6	1	3	3	8	3	3
												39

^aFigures for the most recent months are subject to change as additional data are received.

^bBreak-ins, conspiracy, shoot-out, etc.

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Chronology

This chronology includes significant events, incidents, and trends in international terrorism. It provides commentary on their background, importance, and wider implications. [redacted]

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15-31 December 1982

Turkey

In Izmir Turkish National Police used information obtained during previous arrests in the Adana area to arrest 23 members of the Turkish Communist Party/Marxist-Leninist (TCP/M-L). Material confiscated during the arrests indicated that TCP/M-L was attempting to reunite through propaganda efforts. Weapons and propaganda leaflets found in the safehouse also indicate some Turkish groups were receiving assistance from outside Turkey, possibly through smuggling operations along the Syrian, Iranian, and Iraqi borders. [redacted]

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January 1983

Spain

Spanish police captured seven members of the Catalan separatist terrorist organization Terra Lliure (Free Land). Terra Lliure first appeared in 1980 as the armed wing of the Independentistas de los Paises Catalanes (Advocates of Independence for the Catalan Provinces) and has been suspected of bombing attacks in Catalonia. [redacted]

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12 January 1983

Haiti

In the second terrorist bombing of this year in Port-au-Prince, an explosive device was detonated near the downtown Central Bank. No injuries or damage were reported. Authorities believe the Miami-based Hector Riobe Brigade was responsible. [redacted]

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15 January 1983

West Germany

US military hospital in Zweibruecken was firebombed. A Frankfurt newspaper received a confessor letter on 18 January claiming the attack was conducted by the Red Army Faction (RAF), but the format of the letter indicates the attack could have been conducted by another group. [redacted]

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16 January 1983

Spain

Basque Fatherland and Liberty Political/Military Wing (ETA/PM) VIII Assembly sent death threats to repentant ETA/PM VII Assembly members who dissolved their organization in September 1982 and renounced violence. ETA/PM VIII Assembly suspects the former "Etarras" of providing information to Spanish police in exchange for their freedom in Spain. Former Etarras-turned-police-informers have been killed by both ETA/PM and ETA Military Wing. [redacted]

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Spain

In Madrid a member of the Basque regional police force has been implicated in the Orbegozo kidnaping believed carried out by ETA/PM. Juan Manuel Pomar Mendez disappeared after the Guardia Civil freed Orbegozo. Basque authorities now face additional criticism from the press for the lax standards of recruitment for the new security force. [redacted]

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17 January 1983

Spain

In San Sebastian suspected Basque terrorists released a kidnap victim after the payment of \$1.3 million ransom. [redacted] the ransom was probably delivered abroad to circumvent Spanish Government efforts to impede the payment. The ransom payment was an embarrassment to the Spanish Government, which had taken a firm line against the payment and even detained a member of the victim's family who tried to cross the Spanish-French border in a possible payment attempt [redacted]

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18 January 1983

Thailand

The three hijackers of a Thai Airways domestic flight may be members of the Shan United Army (SUA), which controls 70 percent of the drug traffic in the Golden Triangle. After landing in Chiang Mai, the hijackers escaped with their hostages in a commandeered Thai pickup truck, eventually freeing their hostages in the countryside. One apprehended hijacker confessed that he and a friend had been hired to take the plane. Police identified the leader of the hijackers as an employee of the Industry Ministry based in Chiang Mai. [redacted]

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Turkey

In Adana Turkish National Police arrested four individuals who admitted belonging to the newly formed Turkish Unit (GU), a Marxist-Leninist organization dedicated to the destruction of the present Turkish Government and installation of an anti-US government. [redacted]

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Turkey

In Adana the Turkish National Police captured seven members of the Turkish People's Liberation Party/Front-Radical Left (TPLP/F-RL). Aided by information provided by arrested terrorists, Turkish police have recently been very successful in rounding up suspected terrorists. [redacted]

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20 January 1983

El Salvador

Unidentified assailants attacked ARENA Party headquarters in San Salvador with gunfire and a bomb during a party business meeting. A security guard and a messenger were wounded. This is the second attack on ARENA in the past two weeks. ARENA deputy, Col. Jorge Alberto Jarguin, lost his legs when a bomb was thrown into his car on 9 January. [redacted]

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United Kingdom

In Leeds the Angry Brigade claimed credit for a letter bomb placed at Conservative Party headquarters hours before Prime Minister Thatcher was to visit the city. The device was safely detonated by bomb disposal experts. The Angry Brigade, a shadowy anarchist group active in the early 1970s, gave no motive for the attack in their telephone communique. [redacted]

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Canada

The Royal Canadian Mounted Police arrested five members of the anarchist group Direct Action and recovered several weapons and 2,000 pounds of explosives. Some of the arrestees have been charged with the 31 May bombing of a Vancouver Island hydroelectric substation. No charges have been brought in a similar attack on the Litton Industries plant in Toronto last October. Police also recovered details of future plans for attacks on an armored car and on the Canadian forces base at Cold Lake, Alberta, a future testing site for US cruise missiles. [redacted]

22 January 1983

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France

In a telephone communique to Agence France-Presse in Athens, the Armenian Secret Army for the Liberation of Armenia (ASALA) claimed credit for two attacks in Paris. A lone terrorist, who was later apprehended, tossed a shrapnel-filled grenade into the Turkish Airlines office, slightly injuring three persons. A two-pound bomb found at the Turkish Airline counter at Orly airport was defused without injury. The bomb featured a dual detonation fuse to ensure its detonation. The attacks, which had the capability of inflicting serious injury, mark ASALA's return to terrorist activity after a five-month hiatus. [redacted]

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26 January 1983

India

Sikh agitation for an independent Punjab broke out early on 26 January as four bombs exploded in the Sikh holy city of Amritsar. Renewed agitation may again trigger demonstrations, the paralysis of the Punjab state administration, and violence similar to that which occurred in Punjab and New Delhi last fall. [redacted]

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